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Paid March 5th 1828

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An Inaugural Essay
on
Parityss
for
The Degree
of
Doctor of Medicine
in the
University of Pennsylvania
by
Charles H. Beppert
of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia
January 27 1828.

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Polioptosis.

The disease which I am about to describe, is one that has not been much attended to, perhaps for this reason alone, that nine-tenths of the cases recover. A large portion of the deaths, recorded in the bills of mortality, under the names of measles, hydrocephalus, phthisis and some others are occasioned primarily by it. The number of deaths in the bills of mortality of this city in 1826 was 45-23 of which were under one year old. Therefore it requires a share of notice among the many diseases which our species are liable to receive. By Dr. Cullen it is ranked in the class Neuroses, and also Spasmi. By Good in class 2nd. Pneumoniae, order second Pneumoniae, Genus first Bep. Spasmi third Convulsiva. By the Greeks this disease was denominated, Bep. Thrinax, which the Latins translated literally *Tupus Fovinea*, wild or unmanageable, enough, "from its violence. The name of

Perhaps is derived from per much and tussis cough.
Our own name of Whooping-cough is derived from the
convulsive strangor which accompanies the fit.

The name of Croup, by which it is distinguished
in the North of Europe and which should rather
be written kind: "a child," as being peculiar to this
age, nevertheless it occurs in advanced life.

Dr Cullen says this cough is commonly epidemic,
and manifestly contagious, attacking all the children
of a neighbourhood into which it has been introduced,
affecting some more than others. The remote cause
of whooping-cough is often difficult to trace. Frequent-
ly, indeed, like common cough it seems to proceed
from some irritability of the stomach or some
peculiar affection of the lungs. By Linnaeus who
at one period of his life endeavoured to reduce almost
all diseases into an inflammatory origin, taught that
whooping-cough was also produced in the same
way by an insect of a peculiar kind.

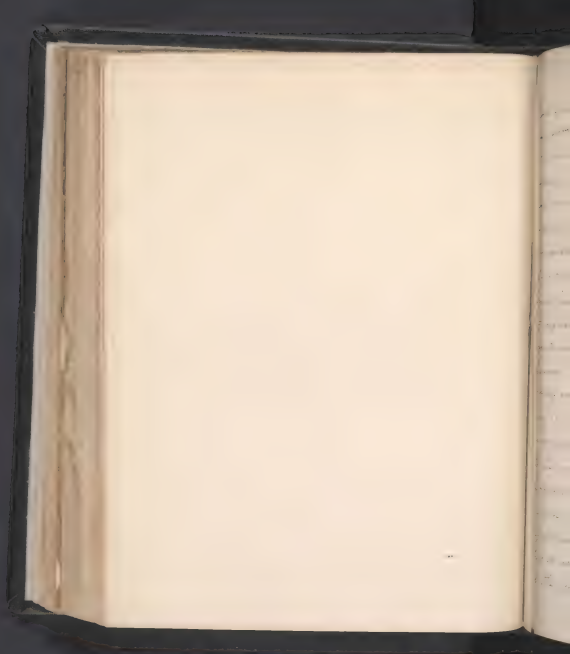
1. *Con-*
 2. *del for*
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 12. *hymene*
 13. *longuiss*
 14. *sub. et*
 15. *experto*
 16. *intercom*
 17. *not per*
 18. *a. above*
 19. *in. et*
 20. *in. inter*
 21. *suble. sub*
 22. *but the*

It rarely attacks more than once in a man's life.
And from all these circumstances there can be
little doubt that it proceeds in most instances from
a mission of a specific nature and peculiar quality,
which like those of the influenza or epidemic
catarrh, and the measles has direct determination
to the lungs, though it is not, like those contagious
affections linked with fever. The proximate or imme-
diate cause seems to be a viscid matter or phlegm
lodged about the bronchiae, trachea, and fauces.
Symptoms. It begins with the common symptoms
of catarrh, from which indeed it cannot be dis-
tinguished by any known criterion for the first
week. It has been observed, that the usual catarrhal
symptoms are here accompanied with a more than
ordinary disposition to sleep, and those which se-
nate general fever are seldom very strongly mark-
ed. About the end of the second or beginning of
the third week, the symptoms undergo a remark-
able change: the fever declines, and appetite returns,
but the cough continues, and recurs in paroxysms

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and the general public, and I am sure, the authorities
will be able to do so.

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This will also be found a good formula.

Take of Chloro Perizonii ℥ss

Syrup. of Squills ℥ss

Antimonial Wine ℥ss

Water — — ℥ss

Mix. It is important to be taken occasionally to allay the cough. An open state of the bowels is almost essential to the favorable progress of the disease. An occasional dose of rhubarb in conjunction with an expectant, is of decided advantage. It has been observed the fluid brought up by vomiting has a sour smell; attention to diet is often sufficient; excited appetites are found to. In the latter stages of hooping cough, when it becomes combined with symptoms of measles, it will be found best to pursue the treatment of Croup in this disease, by small doses of calomel the length of a grain twice a day. In all severe cases, when the cough is accompanied with permanent erysipelas, much heat of skin and other febrile symptoms, general or local blood letting ought never be omitted. When the child complains of much headache, it will be found very

sufficing to apply a few leeches to the head. It has even
been observed, that the severity of the sleep has been in
his way diminished, and the acknowledged influence of
certain states of the brain upon the respiratory organs
may be adduced in explanation of the fact. When the
cancer proves very tedious and obstinate, resisting all
the common modes of relief, and exhausting the patient
by its continuance, we may fairly presume that it has
rooted itself in the system by the force of habit, and to
break on upon this change of air has long been found
universally beneficial, especially where the difference of
temperaments, or even temperature, can be rendered
any considerable, as from a low to a high atmosphere
from the interior of a country to the sea coast. Cold
bathing has proved more certainly and rapidly remedial
than any other prescription whatever, and particu-
larly where it has never been made use of before, and
hence introduces a new action into the system.

For